

NEWS IN *brief*

Govt may fall any time, says SCBA president

UNB, Dhaka

Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) President Khandker Mahbub Hossain yesterday said the government may collapse at any time amid mass upsurge.

"The country is passing through such a situation that a mass upsurge might take place at any time to topple the government," he said at a press briefing arranged by Jatiyatabadi Ainjibi Forum, an associate body of BNP.

Mahbub, also adviser to BNP chairperson, was highly critical against law enforcers and said, "I don't know what fate await you [law enforcers] after the change of government."

Hearing on charge framing against Partex chairman July 19

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday fixed July 19 for hearing on charge framing against Partex Group Chairman MA Hashem and seven others in connection with a tax evasion case.

Judge (In Charge) Mohammad Akhteruzzaman of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order after the accused appeared before the court and appealed to fix a date for hearing a charge framing in the case.

RMG factory ransacked, 10 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Workers of a knitting factory at Sanarpar Mouchak in sadar upazila staged demonstration and vandalized the factory yesterday demanding immediate payment of arrear salary and overtime allowances.

At least ten workers were injured during the incident at Sikotex & Fabrics LTD.

Police quoting witnesses said workers of the factory came to know that they would not be given salaries as supposed earlier when they join their work in the morning.

As the news spread, they started demonstrating inside the factory. Some hired goons attacked them ensuing a chase and counter chase leaving ten injured.

Blood donation camp held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Robi Axiata Limited, a telecom company, organised a blood donation camp at its head office at Gulshan in the city on Sunday, says a press release.

The campaign, participated by Robi employees, collected around 150 bags of blood, which were handed over to the Red Crescent Society.

"The effort is meant to encourage employees to meet their responsibilities as good citizens and to be active participants in activities, especially those of humanitarian and social nature," said Michael Kuehner, managing director and chief executive officer of Robi Axiata Limited.



PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

A mobile court from the Department of Environment yesterday stops sand filling work of Dhaka West Power Ltd occupying Buriganga river at Waaspur in Keraniganj.

BDR CARNAGE CASE 'Charge-sheet defective'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A defence counsel yesterday claimed that the charge-sheet of BDR carnage case is "defective" and pleaded before a Dhaka court to reinvestigate the case.

"The charge-sheet placed before the court is defective. Reinvestigation into the matter is needed to find out the real accused," said Faruk Ahmad, one of the defence counsels of accused BDR jawans.

Faruk Ahmed made the appeal before the makeshift court, set up at Bakshi Bazar in the capital during the hearing of discharge pleas of the accused of BDR (now Border Guard Bangladesh-BGB) carnage case.

A total of 395 accused placed their discharge pleas till yesterday.

Judge Mohammad Zohurul Hoque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court

adjourned the hearing till July 13.

Faruk Ahmed claimed that the charge-sheet submitted in this case could not specify the time and location of the accused during the BDR mutiny on February 25-26 of 2009, which is very important to charge one.

He also said though the BGB headquarters in Pilkhana was not under Lalbagh Police Station, but the then officer in charge of the station filed the case.

Prosecutor Mosharaf Hossain Kajol, however, claimed that cases can be filed with any police station in connection with criminal offence.

About the allegation of defence counsel, he told journalists that, "As a defence counsel they can call for reinvestigation. But we have enough evidence to prove their (accused) involvement in BDR mutiny."

DoE stops sand filling of Buriganga

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Environment yesterday stopped sand filling of the Buriganga by an excavator of an under-construction power plant at Waaspur in Keraniganj.

The DoE asked its owners to produce documents based on which they were filling up a portion of the river.

"As we were conducting a drive in Basila we saw from across the river that a mechanical earthmover was filling up the river by dumping sand into it," said leader of the DoE team Director (Monitoring and Enforcement) Munir Chowdhury. The team was accompanied by Rab-2 personnel.

The earthmover belonged to Dhaka West Power Ltd, which is sand filling the massive power plant site.

The DoE team, sensing environmental degradation, immediately stopped the work. The project officials present at the site failed to produce environmental clearance certificate or

any no-objection certificate either from the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority or the Dhaka district administration.

Later, the head of the DoE team told The Daily Star that for projects like power stations it is illegal to start work before obtaining environmental clearance. Bangladesh Environment Conservation Rules 1997 forbids development of land before obtaining clearances from relevant authorities.

The DoE committee on clearance certificates in its meeting on June 13 decided not to issue any environment clearance to Dhaka West Power Ltd due to irregularities by the company, DoE official sources claimed.

The DoE team asked the officials of Dhaka West Power Ltd to appear at the DoE office on July 7 at 11:00am with all land ownership documents and relevant certificates. It has also asked them to explain as to why the work on the project continued without any clearance certificates.



Officers and JCOs of the President Guard Regiment pose for photograph with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at PGR headquarters in Dhaka Cantonment yesterday on the occasion of the 36th founding anniversary of the regiment.

PHOTO: PTD

Pry, Ebtedai terminal exams from Nov 16

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The primary education and Ebtedai terminal examinations 2011 will begin on November 16.

The decision came at a meeting of the national steering committee on the examination with Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Ameen was in the chair at the ministry's conference room.

The examination would end on November 23, said an official handout.

The examination hour of each examination is two hours while the challenged students will get 15 more minutes, the meeting was told.

Int'l photo exhibition starts July 8

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The 7th International Inter University Photography Exhibition 2011, organised by North South University Photography Club (NSUPC), will begin July 8 at Drik Gallery in the city.

Photos of 152 photographers from 28 local and 15 international universities will be exhibited this year.

North South University Vice-chancellor Dr Hafiz GA Siddiqi will attend the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition as the chief guest at Drik Gallery.

The exhibition will remain open for all from 3:00pm to 8:00pm at Drik Gallery everyday from July 8-14.

The exhibition's 2nd phase will be held at Jatiya Chitrashala of Shilpakala Academy from July 15-22. It will remain open for all from 11:00am to 7:00pm.

The award giving ceremony will be held at Shilpakala Academy on July 15.

Faculty adviser of NSUPC Shahriar Iqbal Raj, NSUPC president Tahsin-ul-Mujib, and NSUPC treasurer Shovon Saha spoke at a press conference organised yesterday to brief about the exhibition.

The Daily Star is the media partner of the exhibition.

Armed forces to be modernised: PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed that the armed forces should be built into a modern and time befitting one through coordinating training, research and providing adequate administrative materials.

The prime minister expressed the view at a function of the President Guard Regiment at Dhaka Cantonment marking the 36th founding anniversary of the regiment.

Hasina said the government is implementing necessary measures for modernising the armed forces through higher trainings and modern equipment.

Hasina said father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman established the PGR in 1975, which has become a big force with 1,600 members and praised their efficiency, sincerity and dutifulness.

She listed various steps of the government for development of the armed forces, which include establishment of several units, brigades and institutions for higher training of the armed forces, National Defence College and Military Institute of Science and Technology, Armed Forces Medical College and Bangladesh Institute of Peace Support Operation and Training.

Besides, she said for protecting the country's eastern border, a Permanent Housing and Operational Deployment for a brigade group has been established in Ramu upazila.

Earlier, one her arrival at the PGR Headquarters a smartly turned out contingent of the regiment presented guard of hour to the prime minister. She inspected the guard and took salute.



Trade show

SME Foundation, Bangladesh Electrical Merchandise Manufacturers Association and Ask Trade will jointly organise an international electrical products, machinery and raw materials trade show. Venue: Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Time: 10:30am.

Seminar

Bangladesh Agriculture Development Corporation will hold a seminar. Venue: BADC auditorium, Farmgate, Time: 9:30am.

Workshop

Saarc Chamber of Women Entrepreneur Council will arrange a workshop. Venue: Sonargaon hotel, Time: 7:00pm.

Photo exhibition

Sheba Bangladesh Foundation will organise a photo exhibition. Venue:



Rise in temperature likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at a few places over Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions in next 12 hours as of 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are also likely at places, Met Office said. Day temperature may rise slightly over the country.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:50pm today and rises at 5:17am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 33.7 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and lowest 23.7 degrees Celsius at Rangamati.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	32.8	26.3	77	67
Chittagong	32.9	25.2	70	81
Rajshahi	32.6	26.2	77	90
Rangpur	33.0	25.5	80	71
Khulna	32.0	25.6	76	79
Barisal	32.0	25.7	73	83
Sylhet	33.7	24.8	80	65



Shahriar Iqbal Raj speaks at meet-the-press at Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday ahead of the 7th International Inter University Photography Exhibition 2011.

PHOTO: STAR